

Lisa



## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

5000 OVERLOOK AVENUE, S.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20032

AUG 1 6 00 PM '05

August 8, 2005

Ms. Karen Johnson (3WP32)  
Chief, Safe Drinking Water Act Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of two sets of improperly collected lead service replacement samples. The lead service replacement was accomplished at [REDACTED] Varnum St NW on June 16, 2005. The assigned sample number, LR608086, was improperly collected by the resident on two separate occasions. The first set of sample bottles was picked up on June 22, 2005 with an improperly filled out chain of custody. A new sample kit was delivered to the resident on June 23, 2005 with proper instructions highlighted on the Chain of Custody (CoC) Form, along with a note concerning the importance of completing the CoC. The second set of sample bottles was delivered to the lab on July 1, 2005. The lab, Washington Aqueduct (WAD), sent an email to us on July 5, 2005 stating that they were "invalidating" the samples submitted to them on July 1, 2005 due to the reasons noted in attachment 1.

An in house sample (LR608086A) was subsequently scheduled and conducted on July 20, 2005 by DC WASA representatives. The sample bottles were delivered to another lab on July 21, 2005. Results of this sample were received on July 26, 2005 and were mailed out on July 27, 2005, which is within 72 hours of receiving them from the lab as required under 40 CFR §141.84 (d)(1).

Although the WAD lab states that they are "invalidating" these samples, we view these samples as "improperly sampled" according to the *Memorandum: Lead and Copper Rule - Clarification of Requirements for Collecting Samples and Calculating Compliance - November 23, 2004* item 6. Therefore, we are not requesting invalidation of these samples; rather, we are just writing to inform you of the issue with the samples at this location.

Sincerely,

John T. Dunn, PE  
Chief Engineer and Deputy General Manager

Cc: Tom Jacobus, PE. Washington Aqueduct

Attachment: 1. Email "Chicoine, Michael L WAD" 07/05/05 2:03 PM

fyi..

>>> "Chicoine, Michael L WAD" <Michael.L.Chicoine@wad01.usace.army.mil>  
07/05/05 2:03 PM >>>  
Mel,

As per my message left on your voicemail today, we are invalidating both samples associated with LR608086 for the following reasons:

\* One of the sample bottles, as received, contained a Pepsi cap rather than a cap which has been acid washed and rinsed appropriately and ensured to be free of any trace metal contaminants.  
\* The homeowner did not indicate 1st or 2nd draw on the bottles and the sample collection times are exactly the same so there is no way to distinguish one bottle from the other.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you,

Mike Chicoine  
Quality Control Officer  
Washington Aqueduct  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
202-764-0050  
202-764-2401 (fax)  
michael.l.chicoine@usace.army.mil

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: The security of electronic mail sent through the Internet is not guaranteed. DCWASA therefore recommends that you do not send confidential information to us via electronic mail, including social security numbers, account numbers and personal identification numbers unless instructed to do so through a secured site. Delivery and timely delivery of electronic mail is also not guaranteed. WASA also recommends that you do not send time-sensitive or action-oriented messages to us via electronic mail unless instructed to do so.

----- Message from "Chicoine, Michael L WAD" <Michael.L.Chicoine@wad01.usace.army.mil> on Tue, 5 Jul 2005 14:03:49 -0400 -----

**To:** <MWhite@mbakercorp.com>

**cc:** "Turner, Elizabeth A WAD" <Elizabeth.A.Turner@wad01.usace.army.mil>

**Subject:** Invalid WASA Lead Service Line Replacement Sample

Mel,

As per my message left on your voicemail today, we are invalidating both samples associated with

LR608086 for the following reasons:

- One of the sample bottles, as received, contained a Pepsi cap rather than a cap which has been acid washed and rinsed appropriately and ensured to be free of any trace metal contaminants.
- The homeowner did not indicate 1st or 2nd draw on the bottles and the sample collection times are exactly the same so there is no way to distinguish one bottle from the other.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you,

Mike Chicoine  
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Washington Aqueduct  
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